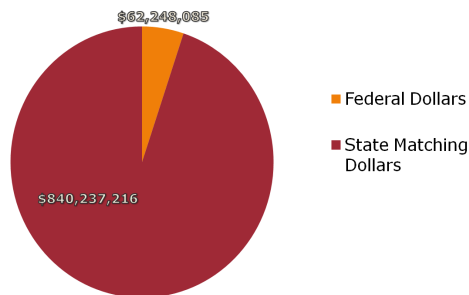


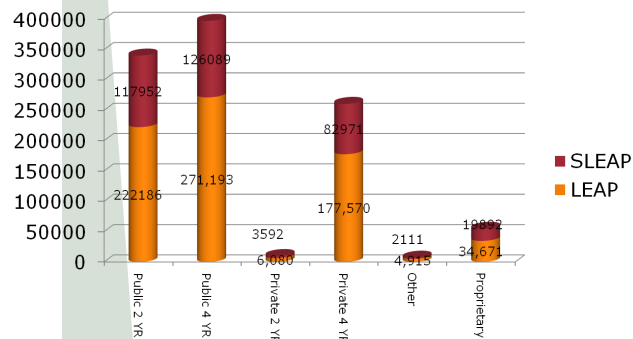
Latest Program Data (2005-2006 Award Year)

Size of the LEAP and SLEAP Programs

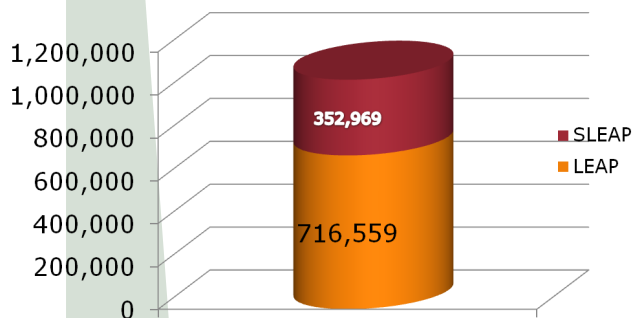


\$1,245,338,838 Total Size

Students By Type of Institution

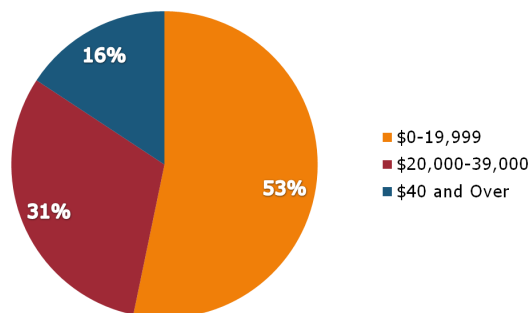


Total Student Population

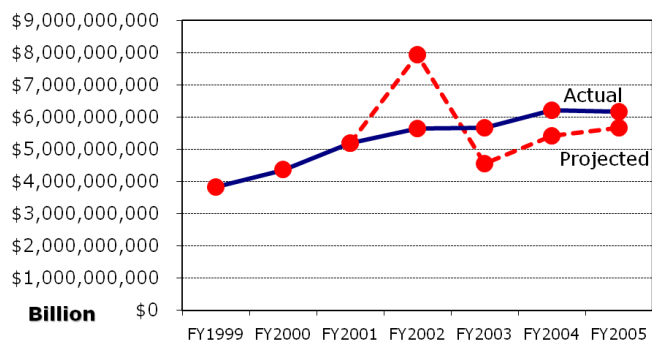


Total Students 1,069,528

Total Student Population By Income Level



Overall Growth of State Grant Aid Programs



U.S. Department of Education

Federal Student Aid
Financial Partners Services
830 First St., N.E., 11th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20202

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U.S. Department of Education

Leveraging Educational
Assistance Partnership
and Special Leveraging
Educational Assistance
Partnership Programs

**LEAP and SLEAP
At a Glance**

2007-2008



**START HERE
GO FURTHER**
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) Program

The LEAP Program assists States in providing student aid programs for eligible students pursuing their postsecondary education and who have substantial financial need. The student aid programs can be in the form of grants or community service work-study employment. These State programs carry a variety of names which do not necessarily include the words "Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership" as part of the program title. The state programs are operational in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The SLEAP Program is an additional component of the LEAP Program. To participate in this program, a State must also participate in the LEAP Program. Additionally, the SLEAP

Special Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (SLEAP) Program

Program must be administered by the same state educational agency that administers its LEAP Program. The SLEAP Program assists States in providing student aid programs for eligible students pursuing their postsecondary education and who have substantial financial need. The student aid programs can be in the form of supplemental grants, supplemental community service work-study employment, or merit and academic achievement or critical career scholarships.

The LEAP and SLEAP programs are funded under one appropriation. The initial \$30 million of the Federal appropriation funds the LEAP Program. Any amount in excess of the initial \$30 million must be used to carry out the SLEAP Program. The Federal funds are allotted to eligible States using a statutory, Federal allotment formula.

Program Overview

Program Administration: The LEAP and SLEAP program funds are administered by the states through designated state agencies that apply annually for federal funds. If awarded federal funds, the states must match these funds with state funds. Each program has its own matching and maintenance-of-effort (MOE) requirements. Under LEAP, states match dollar for dollar with state appropriated funds. Under SLEAP, states match two dollars to one federal dollar with funds derived from non federal sources.

Within federal statutory and regulatory requirements, these agencies are responsible for establishing grant amounts, number of students to be aided, and the criteria for selecting students who will receive grants. The state agency is responsible for establishing a definition of "substantial financial need" to use in determining student eligibility. This definition is then approved by the Secretary of Education. Each state also determines how the program funds will be used in relationship to other student aid.

Institutional Eligibility: Eligible institutions may include 2-year and 4-year public and private colleges and universities, community and junior colleges, vocational schools, technical institutes, accredited proprietary schools, and hospital schools of nursing. All nonprofit institutions of higher education must be eligible to participate, except where such participation violates the state's constitution or a law enacted before October 1, 1978.

Student Eligibility: Student eligibility to receive aid under the LEAP and SLEAP programs differ from state to state. However, an applicant must meet federal Title IV requirements and have demonstrated "substantial financial need" as determined by the state.

Student Awards: Under LEAP, states may award up to \$5,000 per academic year to students who meet the eligibility requirements. Most states limit LEAP awards to undergraduate students attending at least half-time. However, some states will make awards to less-than-half-time and graduate students. Using SLEAP funds, states may opt to increase the

dollar amount of awards to students or increase the number of students that receive aid in their state.

Student Application Process: Application procedures vary. In some states student apply directly to their state agency. Other states require student apply through their institutions of higher education. Most states, at least in part, rely on FSA's FAFSA data in determining student eligibility for state aid.